

9.

Description of an Egg of the Long-tailed Bird of Paradise.

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Plate I.

On June 16, 1937, a pair of Long-tailed Birds of Paradise, *Epimachus meyeri meyeri* Finsch, collected by F. Shaw Mayer "near the head of the Waria," were received at the Zoological Park. During following years, frequent displays of the male were noted but as this is a common practice in the group and there was no evidence of nesting activity, we expected no further result. However, the female was noticed in comatose condition on the afternoon of February 28, 1941, and on examination was found to be egg-bound. She responded well to treatment and the egg was safely laid about two hours later.

Since the egg of this species appears to be undescribed, the following notes are given.

The egg measures 44.25 × 28.5 mm. Its weight was 18.9 grams or approximately .62 ounces. The ground color is buff (close to Cartridge Buff of Ridgway). It is heavily blotched and streaked at the large end, the markings decreasing toward the small end, which is almost clear. The under markings are grayish (close to Pale Mouse Gray of Ridgway) while those on the surface are reddish-brown (near Russet of Ridgway).

EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE.

PLATE I.

Fig. 1. Egg of *Epimachus meyeri meyeri* Finsch.
Actual size.